



Australian Government

Community
Grants Hub
Improving your grant experience



Saluting Their Service Commemorative Grants Program

Feedback for applicants

Overview

The *Saluting Their Service* Commemorations Program (the program) is designed to preserve Australia's wartime heritage and to involve people throughout the nation in a wide range of projects and activities highlighting the service and sacrifice of Australia's service personnel in wars, conflicts and peace operations, and promote appreciation and understanding of the role those who served have played in shaping the nation.

The objective of the program is to acknowledge and commemorate those who served Australia and its allies in wars, conflicts and peace operations.

There are 2 categories of grants available under the program.

1. Community Commemorative Grants:
Grants up to a maximum of \$10,000 are available for local, community-based projects and activities.
2. Major Commemorative Grants:
Grants between \$10,001 and \$150,000 are available for major commemorative projects and activities that are significant from a national, state, territory and/or regional perspective.

The intended outcomes of the grant opportunity are to:

- provide funding for local community-based commemorative projects and activities that directly commemorate the involvement, service and sacrifice of Australia's service personnel in wars, conflicts and peace operations
- involve people throughout the nation in a wide range of projects and activities that highlight the service and sacrifice of Australia's service personnel in wars, conflicts and peace operations and promote appreciation and understanding of the roles those who served have played in shaping the nation.

The application period for the program opened on 1 April 2020 and closed on 11 February 2021. Assessment of applications was divided into 3 batches, with pre-determined closing dates of 15 July 2020, 29 October 2020 and 11 February 2021.

Selection Process

The Community Grants Hub (the Hub) and Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) administered an open competitive process. 'Open competitive' funding rounds have open and closed nominated dates, with eligible applications being assessed against the nominated selection criteria.

All applications passing the initial eligibility and compliance checks were assessed against the assessment criteria and eligibility of activities and expenditure. Following preliminary assessment by DVA, all outcomes were referred to the Commemorative Grants Advisory Committee (CGAC).

In making their recommendations, the CGAC considered whether the application provided *value with relevant money*¹, having regard to:

- the overall objective/s to be achieved in providing the grant
- the relative value of the grant sought
- the extent to which the evidence in the application demonstrates it will contribute to meeting the outcomes/objectives
- how the grant activities will target groups or individuals.

The CGAC was chaired by the Repatriation Commissioner of the DVA and comprised representatives from the Returned Services League of Australia, Australian Local Government Association, Australian War Memorial, Office of Australian War Graves and policy staff within DVA.

The CGAC made funding recommendations to the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, who was the final decision maker.

General feedback

Overall, the successful applicants proposed activities that were eligible, appropriate and considered effective for achieving the program objectives. Successful applicants demonstrated strong alignment to the aim of the grant to acknowledge and commemorate those who served Australia and its allies in wars, conflicts and peace operations.

Applicants who were unsuccessful could have strengthened their application by ensuring their proposed project:

- met the aim of the grant to acknowledge and commemorate those who served Australia and its allies in wars, conflicts and peace operations
- is an eligible project or activity type (as per section 5 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines)
- requests funding for eligible items (as per section 5 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines)
- represents value with relevant money
- has sufficient detail in the application to ascertain scope and relevance of the project.

¹ 'Value with relevant money' is a judgement based on the grant proposal representing an efficient, effective, economical and ethical use of public resources and determined from a variety of considerations.



Guidance for future applications under the program

The following guidance may assist applicants in completing applications for *Saluting Their Service* grant funding.

Read the supporting information before applying.

- It is important to read all available information provided when applying for funding, especially the grant opportunity documentation provided on the Hub's [website](#).
- The grant opportunity documentation is specific to each round and contains important information about the purpose of the program, eligibility and compliance requirements, eligible items, timeframes and how to apply.
- The application form includes helpful information and details on questions relating to eligibility, priority for funding, and mandatory information required by the Hub and DVA for the selection process.